



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Jennifer McNatt*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, October 18, 2018

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh).

# Summary of the Upcoming Week



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## Today

- **Heavy rain/ flash flooding continues over vulnerable areas of W-Central and SW TX.**
  - Isolated heavy rain / flooding possible near the Middle and STX Coast.

## Friday - Monday

- **A heavy rain threat will continue on Friday, mainly across the Red River Valley into the DFW Metroplex. Even low rain amounts down into the Hill Country may lead to additional flooding though due to already saturated soils. Heavy rain / flash flood threat will also continue along the southern TX Coast.**
- **By Saturday, the flood threat appears to be focused in/around the Rio Grande Valley. On Sunday, it appears that most of the rain will be focused down in STX, some heavy rain / flood potential down there.**
- **Flooding / flash flooding concerns will continue over S & S-Central TX on Monday, with widespread rain chances on Tuesday/Wednesday across vulnerable locations of TX.**

## River Flood Status

- **Moderate to Major River flooding is ongoing or expected across Texas.**
  - Chambers Creek near Rice (SSE of Dallas) is expected to fall below major flood stage today, minor lowland flooding still expected.
  - Points along the Nueces river in STX will be in Major Flood at times over the next week as water moves downstream. The point near Asherton is rising and expected to crest in Major flood today with mostly agricultural impacts.
  - The Colorado River at Lake Travis is in Major Flood; homes and mobile homes at Graveyard Point are likely impacted now.
  - The Trinity River near Rosser will begin a slow fall, but points further STX will be rising as the water moves downstream. The crest will reach Liberty (near Houston) today and tomorrow, cresting Friday into the weekend in Major flood stage; will likely impact subdivisions above Liberty.
- **Additional rainfall over the next few days will likely prolong flooding along the already impacted rivers and lead to additional moderate (to isolated major) river flooding throughout W-Central and STX due to already saturated soils.**

## Tropical Outlook

- **No new tropical cyclones are expected during the next five days.**

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Oct 18, 2018 – Oct 22, 2018



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DAY / THREAT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Severe Storms					
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	W-Cntrl & SW TX	Red River Valley, N-Central TX	Rio Grande Valley	STX	S & S-Cntrl TX
	Middle & STX Coast				
Winter Weather					
Tropical Weather					
River Flooding	TX	TX	TX	TX	TX

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

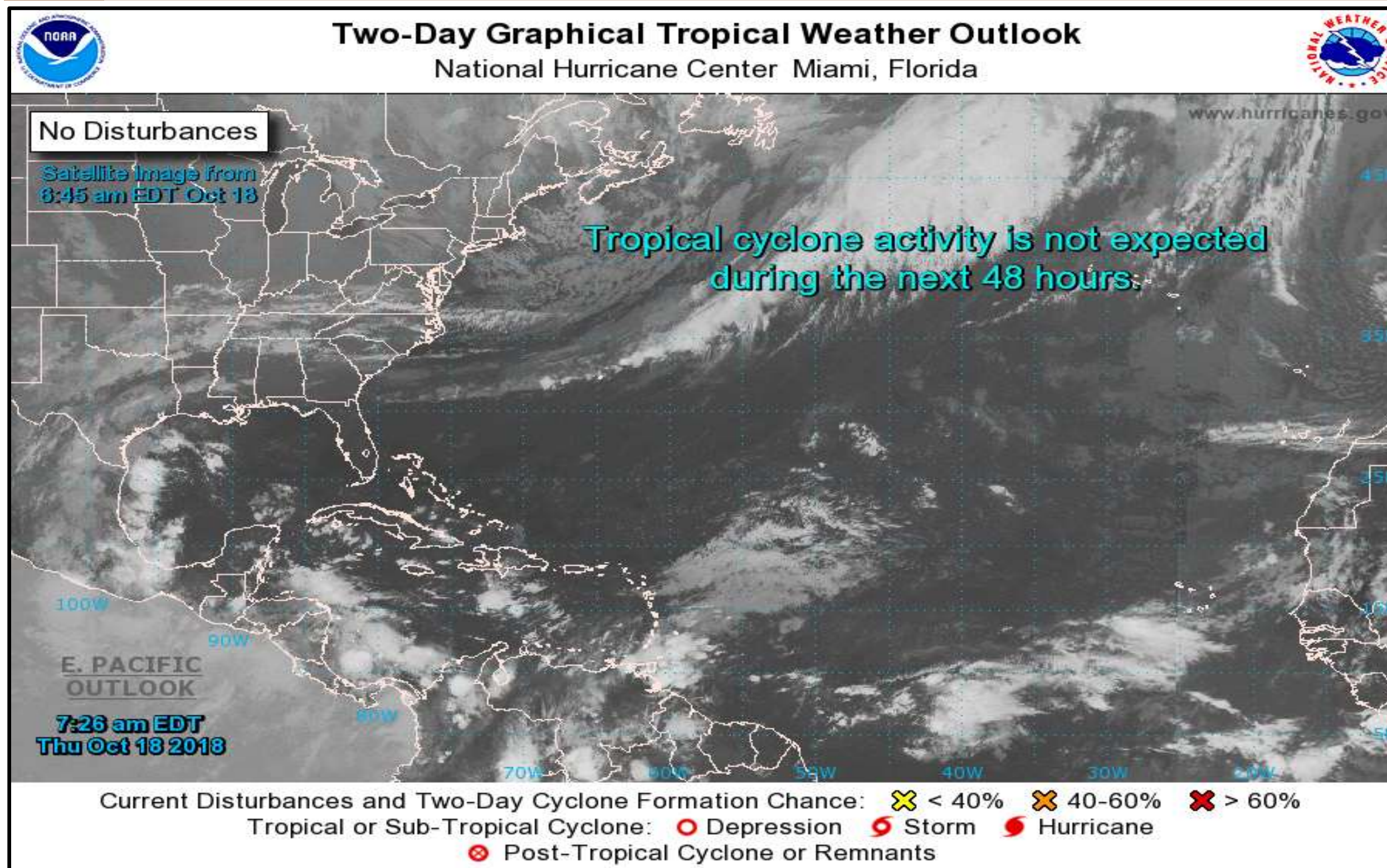
*\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.  
State or local threat level criteria may differ.\*  
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*



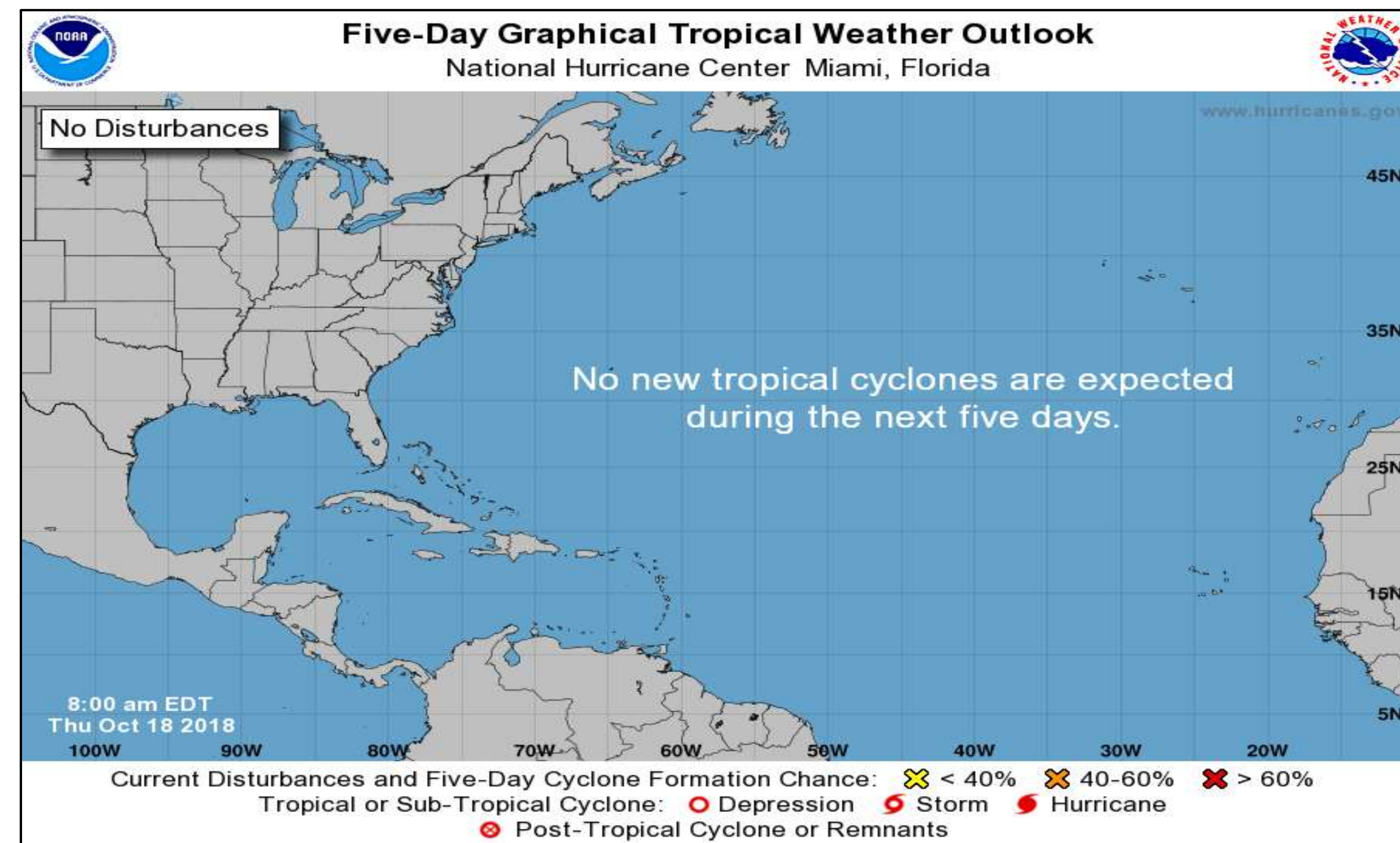
# Tropical Weather Outlook – Atlantic/Gulf



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**No new tropical cyclones are expected during the next five days.**



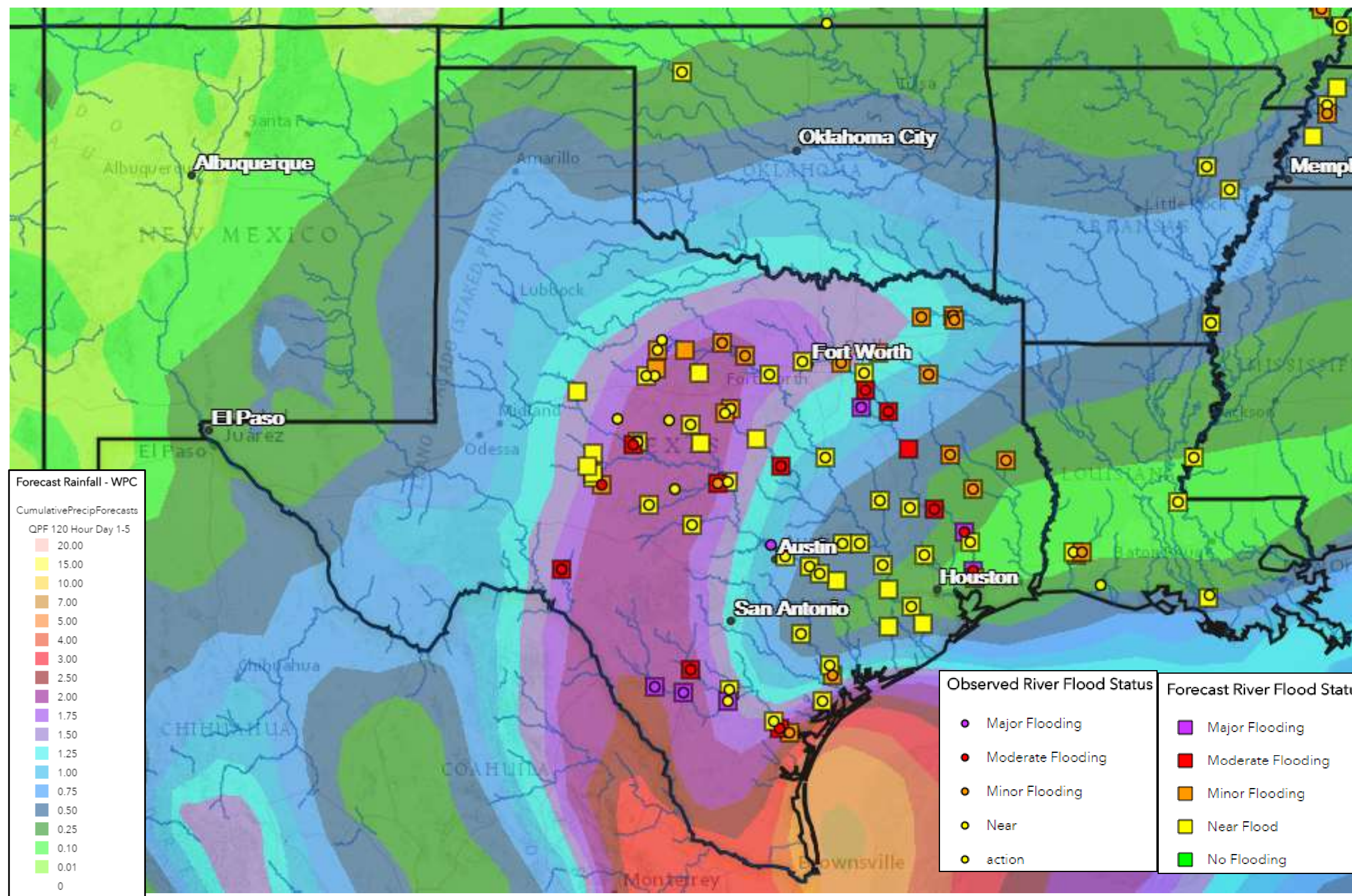


# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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*Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall*



**Moderate to Major River flooding is ongoing or expected across Texas.**

- **Chambers Creek near Rice (SSE of Dallas) is expected to fall below major flood stage today, minor lowland flooding still expected.**
- **Points along the Nueces river in STX will be in Major Flood at times over the next week as water moves downstream. The point near Asherton is rising and expected to crest in Major flood today with mostly agricultural impacts.**
- **The Colorado River at Lake Travis is in Major Flood; homes and mobile homes at Graveyard Point are likely impacted now.**
- **The Trinity River near Rosser will begin a slow fall, but points further STX will be rising as the water moves downstream. The crest will reach Liberty (near Houston) today and tomorrow, cresting Friday into the weekend in Major flood stage; will likely impact subdivisions above Liberty.**

**Additional rainfall over the next few days will likely prolong flooding along the already impacted rivers and lead to additional moderate (to isolated major) river flooding throughout W-Central and STX due to already saturated soils.**



# Today's Weather



## Forecast Chart



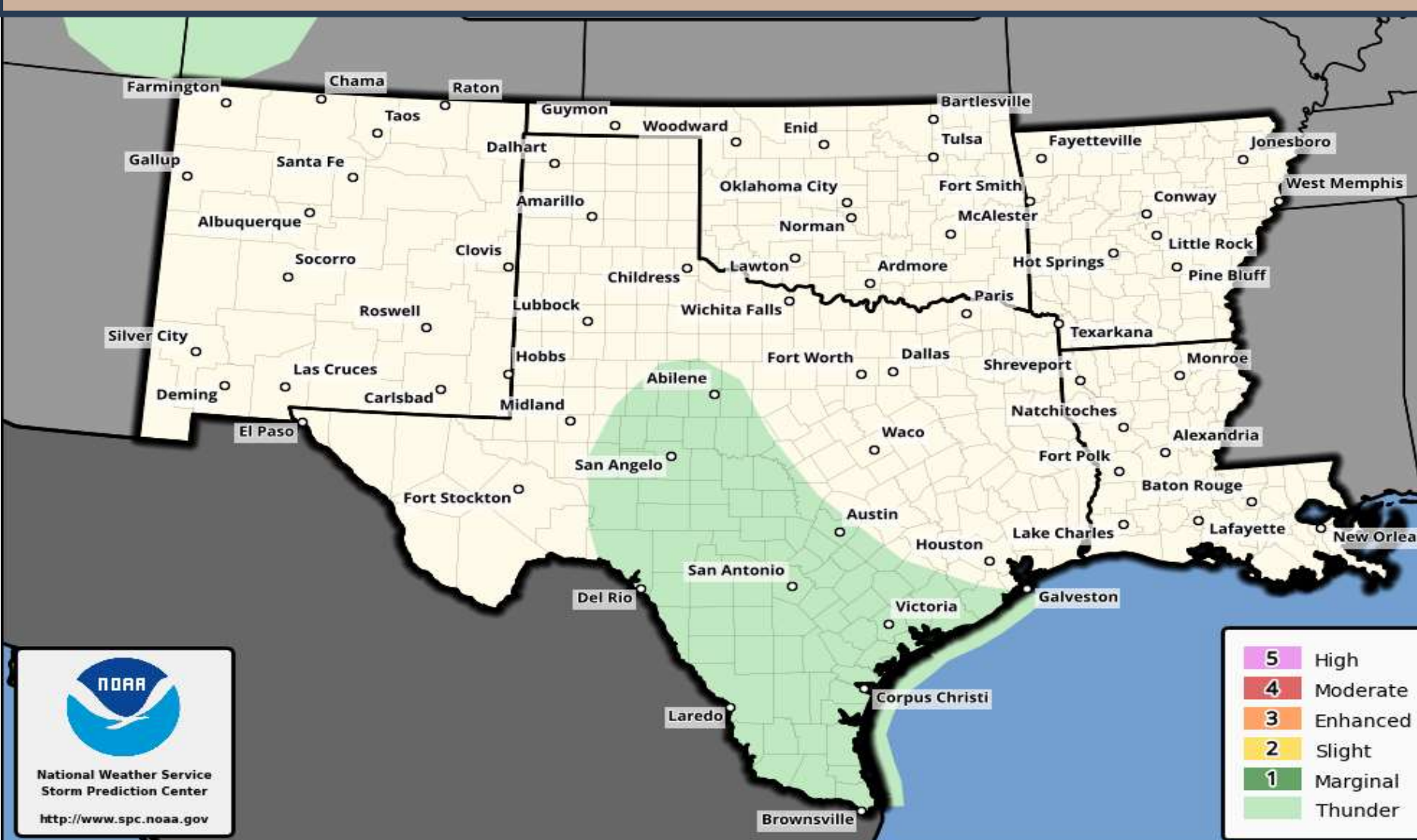
## Forecast Rainfall



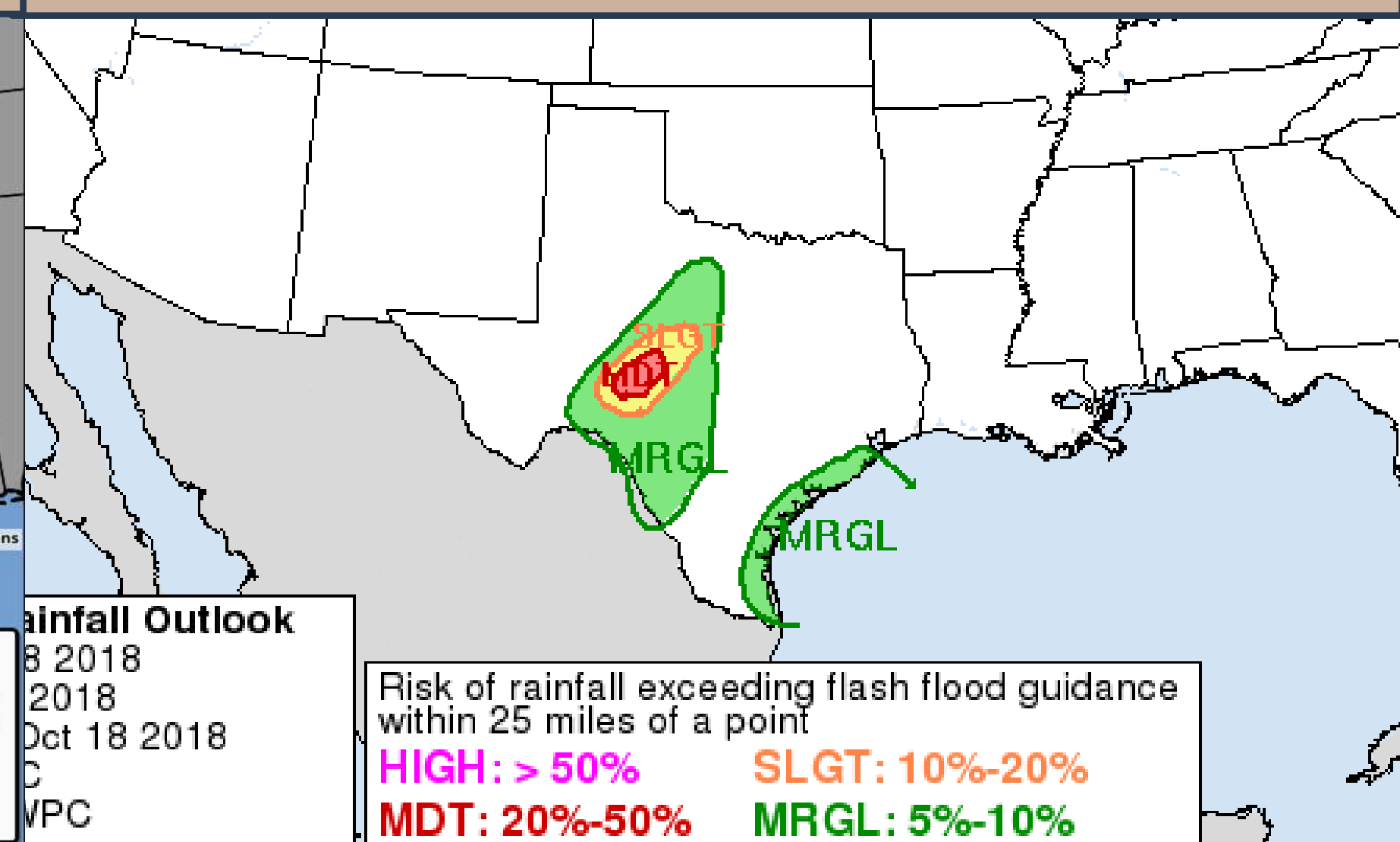
**Heavy rain/flash flooding possible for already vulnerable portions of W-Central and SW TX.**

**Isolated heavy rain possible  
near the Middle and STX  
Coast.**

## Severe Weather Outlook



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook





# Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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## Fire Weather



Graphic Created

## Severe Weather & Flooding



Graphic Created

**Flash Flood Watches continue  
for much of  
W-Central into SW TX  
through Friday morning.**

## Strong & Gusty Winds



Graphic Created

## Winter Weather



Graphic Created



# Tomorrow's Weather



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## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall

**A heavy rain threat will continue, mainly across the Red River Valley into the DFW Metroplex. Even low rain amounts down into the Hill Country may lead to additional flooding though due to already saturated soils. Heavy rain / flash flood threat will also continue along the southern TX Coast.**

## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook

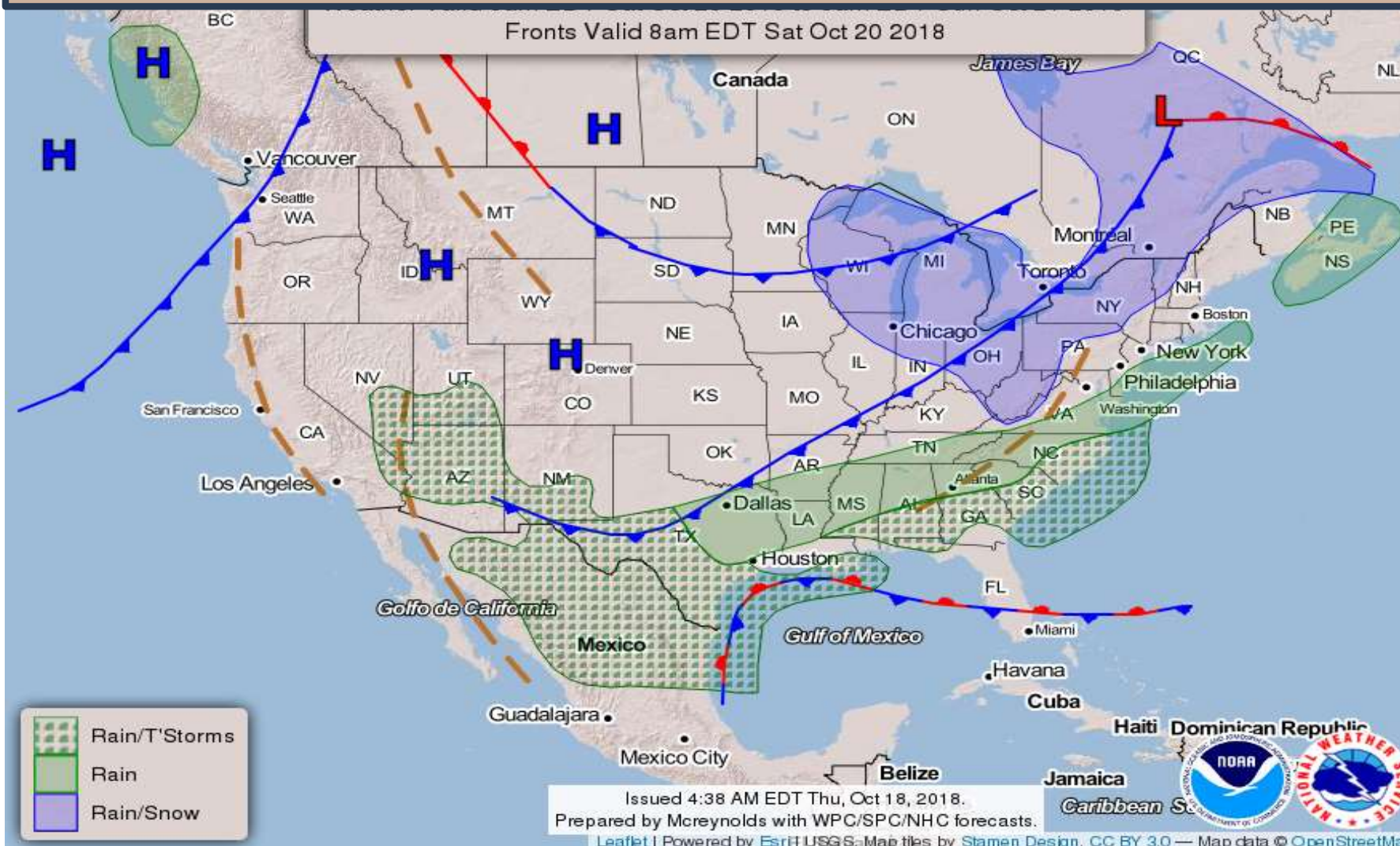


# Saturday's Weather



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## Forecast Chart



## Forecast Rainfall

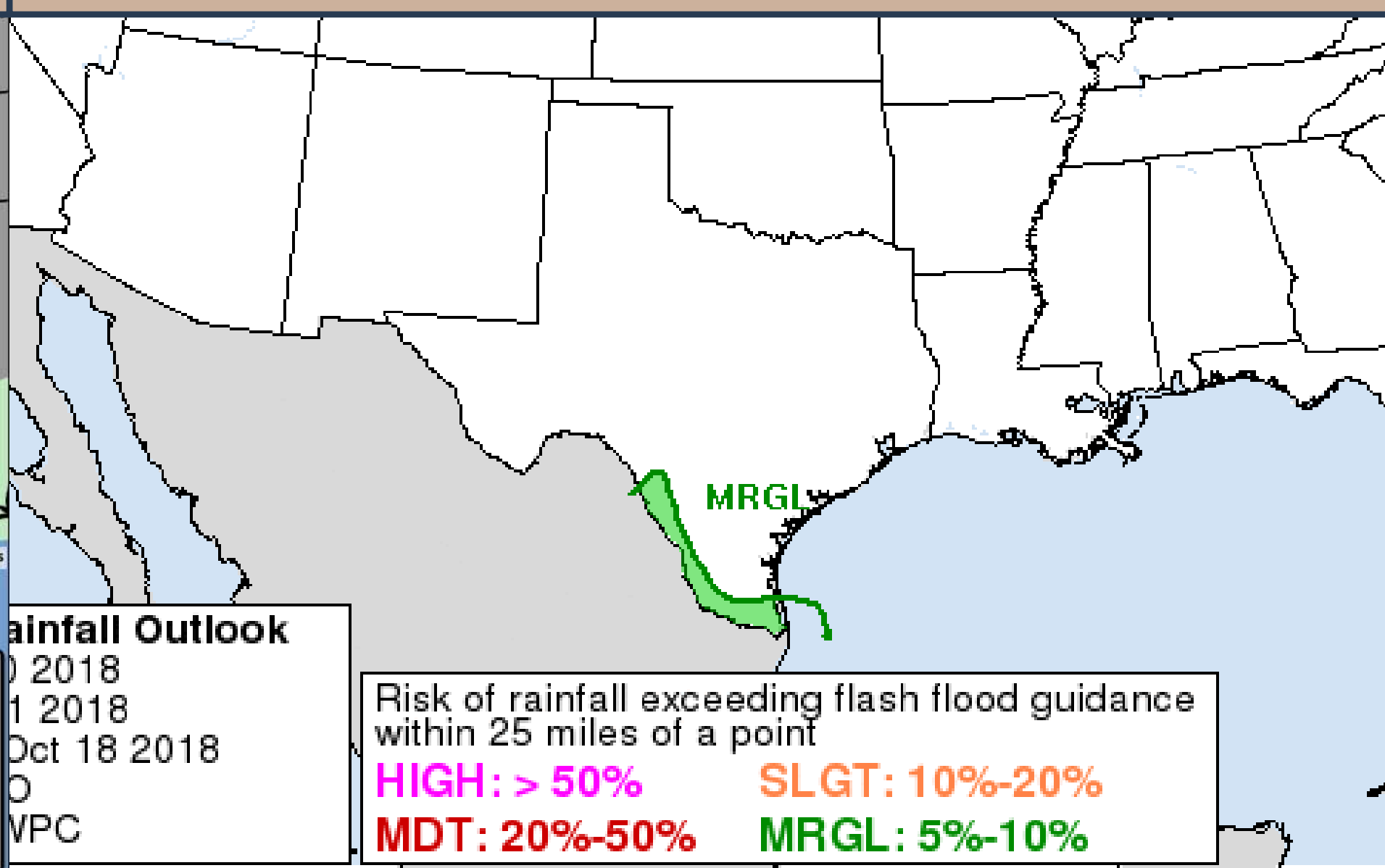


Isolated heavy rain / flash  
flooding possible over the Rio  
Grande Valley of TX.

## Severe Weather Outlook



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



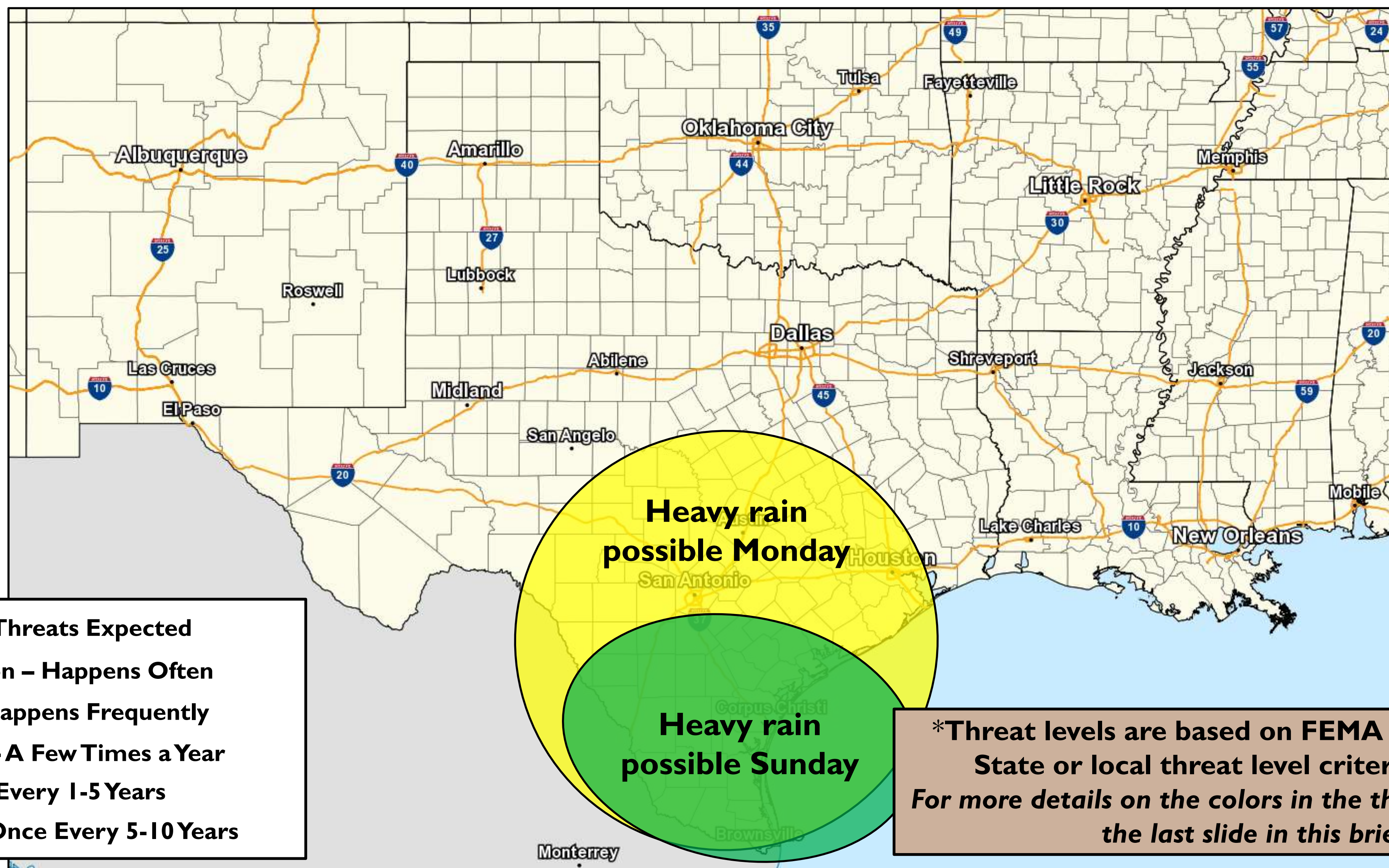


# Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Sunday - Monday



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- No Weather Threats Expected
- Very Common – Happens Often
- Common – Happens Frequently
- Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
- Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
- Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

**\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.\***  
**For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.**



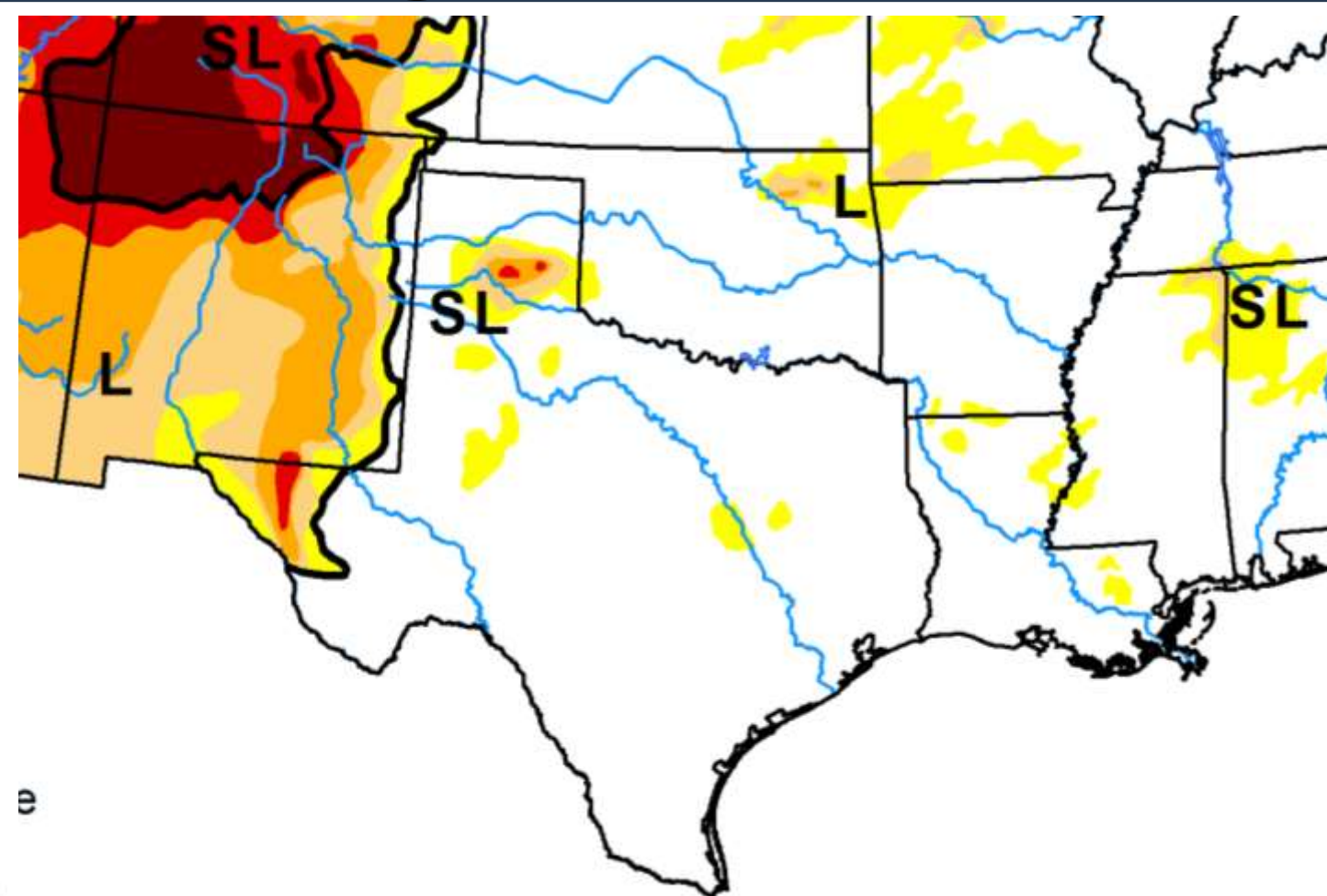
# Drought Monitor (Released October 18, 2018)



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Data valid as of 7am CDT, Tuesday, October 16, 2018

## Drought Monitor

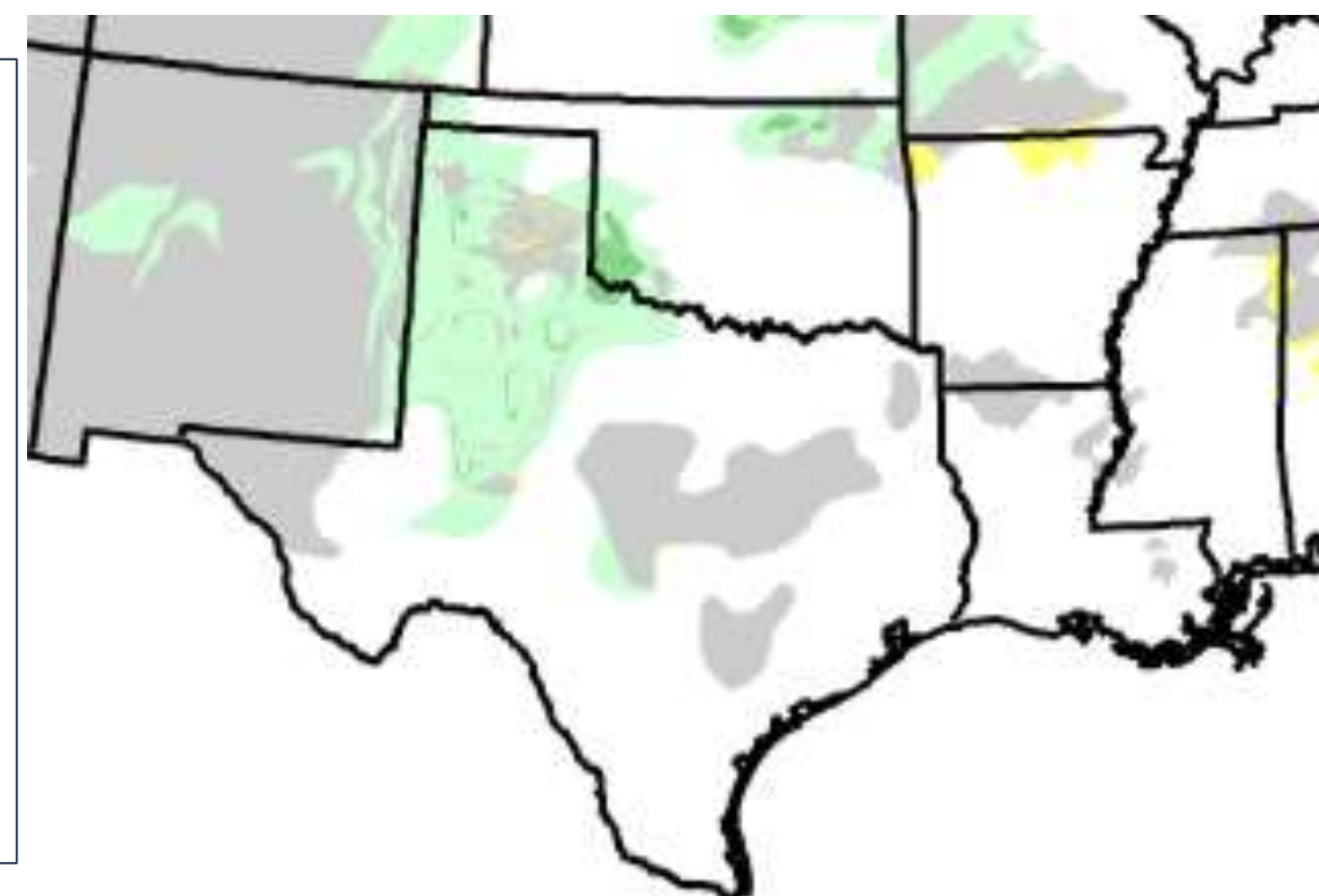


### Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

## One Week Change in Drought

- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement



## Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	0.00%	0.00%	8.81%	0.00%
Texas	0.54%	0.59%	3.38%	0.00%
New Mexico	23.07%	28.20%	55.15%	0.00%

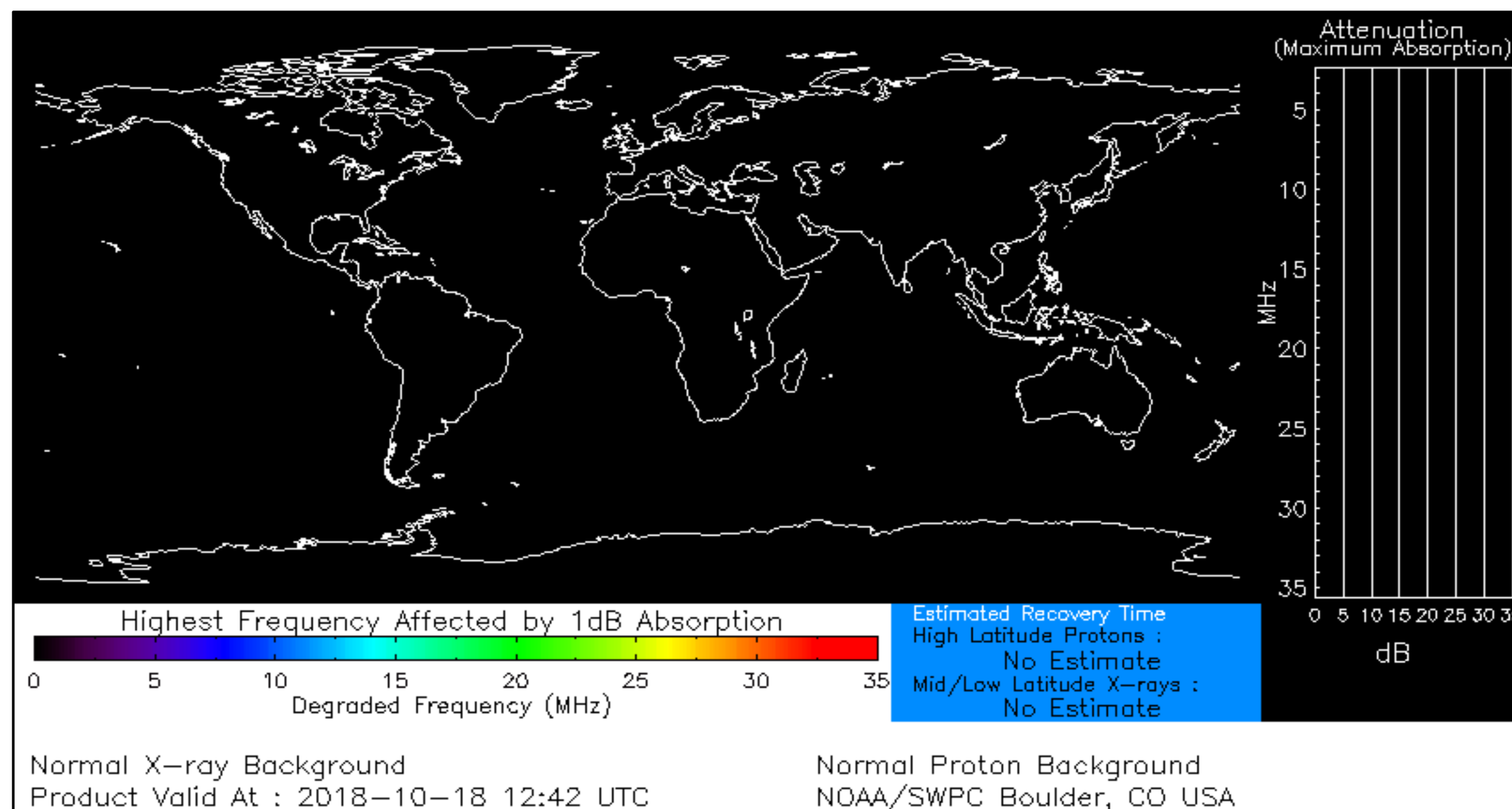


# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



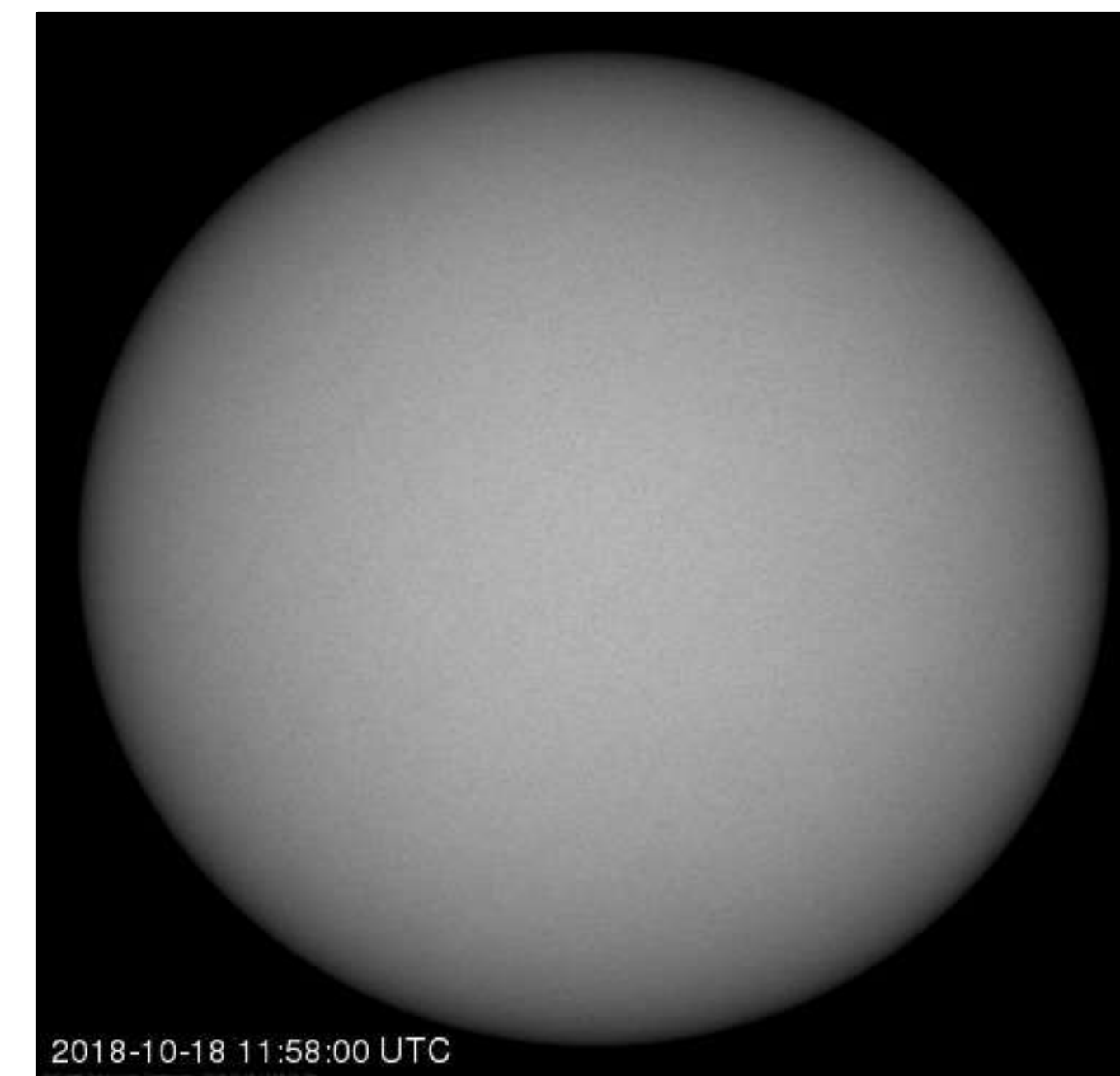
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	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Minor (G1) Storm (Max Kp = 5)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a  
Description of the Space  
Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest  
3-Day Space Weather  
Forecast Text](#)







# For more information, please contact:

**National Weather Service**  
Southern Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>





Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to**

**[sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)**